CLAIMS

1. A method of providing information to a client from a
   client access network in the form of user information
   regarding a plurality of users, **characterised by** the
   following steps:
   - receiving a subscription request from the client for
   certain information on a set of users,
   - receiving and storing information updates regarding
   users in the set,
   - receiving a subsequent request for user information
   from the client,
   - retrieving stored user information corresponding to the
   requested information, and
   - sending a notification to the client regarding the
   retrieved user information, in response to the subsequent
   user information request.

2. A method according to claim 1, **characterised in** that the
   users are mobile users.

3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, **characterised in** that
   the user information is presence information on the
   users.

4. A method according to any of claims 1-3, wherein at least
   some of the users in the set are connected to other
   access networks, **characterised in** that the client access
   network establishes a network subscription for user
   information updates with each of the other access
   networks to which users in the set are connected, in
   response to the received client subscription request.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein several of the users in the set are connected to the same user access network, **characterised in** that the client access network sends one common subscription request for those users to that user access network, including a list of the users in the set being connected to that network.

6. A method according to claim 4 or 5, **characterised in** that information updates are continuously received from the other access networks whenever changes of state are detected for the users in the set, impacting the present network subscription.

7. A method according to any of claims 4-6, **characterised in** that, after establishing the network subscriptions, information is initially received from the other access networks on the current states of their respective users.

8. A method according to claim 7, **characterised in** that an initial notification is sent to the client regarding the received user information, before receiving the subsequent user information request.

9. A method according to any of claims 1-8, **characterised in** that the subsequent request for user information received from the client is limited to a subset of users comprising fewer users than the original set of users.

10. A method according to any of claims 1-9, **characterised in** that the subsequent request for user information received from the client is limited to one or some types of

information of the information included in the
subscription.

11. A method according to claim 9 or 10, **characterised in**
that the subset of users and/or types of information is
selected by the client.

12. A method according to claim 9 or 10, **characterised in**
that the subset of users and/or types of information is
adapted to a service and/or application currently
utilised by the client.

13. A method according to any of claims 1-12, **characterised
in** that a subsequent notification is sent to the client
indicating only the changes since the previous
notification.

14. A method according to any of claims 1-12, **characterised
in** that a subsequent notification is sent to the client
indicating that nothing has changed since the last
notification.

15. A method according to any of claims 1-14, **characterised
in** that the subscription request from the client
indicates the types of information needed.

16. A method according to any of claims 1-15, **characterised
in** that the subscription request from the client
indicates a time of expiration.

17. A method according to claim 16, **characterised in** that the
subscription request from the client specifies a minimum

time between successive notifications corresponding to
the time of expiration.

18. A method according to any of claims 1-17, **characterised in** that the set of users is selected by indicating a predetermined list of users.

19. A method according to any of claims 1-17, **characterised in** that the set of users is selected as an ad hoc list of users.

20. A method according to any of claims 1-17, **characterised in** that the set of users is selected by adding users to or deleting users from a predetermined list of users.

21. An arrangement in a client access network for providing information to a connected client in the form of information regarding a plurality of users, **characterised by**:
    - an information delivery server adapted to receive a subscription request from the client for certain information on a set of users, and to receive information updates regarding the set of users from their respective access networks,
    - a data storage means for storing updated user information,
    wherein the information delivery server is further adapted to receive a subsequent request for user information from the client, and to retrieve requested user information from the data storage means and send a notification to the client including the retrieved user information, in response to the user information request.

22. An arrangement according to claim 21, wherein at least some of the users in the set are connected to other access networks, **characterised in** that the information delivery server is further adapted to establish a network subscription for user information updates with each of the other access networks to which users in the set are connected, in response to the received client subscription request.

23. An arrangement according to claim 21 or 22, **characterised in** that the information delivery server is further adapted to continuously receive information updates from the other access networks whenever changes of state are detected for the users in the set.

24. An arrangement according to any of claims 21-23, **characterised in** that the information delivery server is further adapted to initially receive from the other networks information on the current states of their respective users.

25. An arrangement according to claim 24, **characterised in** that the information delivery server is further adapted to send an initial notification to the client containing the received user information.

26. An arrangement according to any of claims 21-25, **characterised in** that the information delivery server is further adapted to send to the client a subsequent notification indicating only the changes since the previous notification.

27. An arrangement according to any of claims 21-25,
characterised in that the information delivery server is
further adapted to send to the client a subsequent
notification indicating that nothing has changed since
the last notification.

28. An arrangement according to any of claims 21-27, further
comprising a user list server adapted to maintain various
lists of users defined for clients of the client access
network, **characterised in** that the user list server is
adapted to provide a predetermined list as a basis for
the selected set users.